

MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSION
HUMAN RESOURCES, SAFETY AND TRAINING COMMITTEE
MEETING
November 5, 2001

EOB 12th FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair Commissioner Anita Powell
Commissioner Tom Carr
Marcine Goodloe, FB Representative
Deputy Chief Lowell Jackson
Commissioner Len Marco
District Chief Lisa Larson, GVFD

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Gordon Aoyagi, Fire Administrator
Chief David Dwyer, DVFRS
Fred Welsh, DVFRS
Chief William Alan Hinde, Rockville, VFD
Asst. Chief Roger McGarry, DFRS
Amy Davis, IAFF Local 1664
Neil Shorb, MCFRS
George Giebel, MCFRS
Beth Feldman, MCFRS
Annette Cheng, MCFRS
Connie Robinson, MCFRS

1. Call to Order – Chair Powell

The Human Resources, Safety and Training Committee meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Powell at 5:15 p.m. in the EOB lobby conference room.

Neil Shorb announced that Annette Cheng has been promoted to Executive Administrative Aide to Gordon Aoyagi and is leaving the FRC staff. Connie Robinson will replace Annette on an interim basis for next few months.

Chief Dwyer introduced Fred Welsh as a new DVFRS Planning Manager.

2. Approval of Minutes of October 1, 2001 Meeting

A MOTION was made by Ms. Goodloe to approve the minutes of the Human Resources, Safety and Training Committee meeting of October 1, 2001. MOTION SECONDED by Deputy Chief Jackson and PASSED unanimously.

3. Maryland Fire Service Health & Safety Regulation

Assistant Chief McGary made a presentation on Maryland Fire Service Health Regulation. The Maryland Secretary of Labor had initiated this effect to create a Maryland Occupational Safety and Health (MOSH) Regulation to implement the provisions of HFWA 1500 in Maryland. However, after further consideration, the regulation is now being promulgated as a consensus standard. This consensus standard will serve as a benchmark when handling and investigating safety complaints. The consensus standard also specifies annual SCBA fit testing, which is already a requirement for the MCFRS.

4. **Updates**

- **Safety/Driver Training**

Commissioner Marco advised that this draft was still in committee being reviewed. More information to be provided at the next HRST meeting.

- **Wellness Initiative**

Commissioner Carr advised that Takoma Park and Rockville were in the process of procuring treadmills with Senator Amos funds. He also noted that a staff psychologist has been hired and is scheduled to start work with MCFRS in December. The Fire Administrator will support the Bethesda 10K Annual Turkey Trot, and an Information Bulletin will be sent out shortly. Chief Jackson advised that as of November 1, all MCFRS personnel must show photo identification when visiting OMS.

- **Medical Standards**

A draft scope of requirements to develop medical standards for volunteer EMS providers has been given to District Chief Larson for her input and review.

5. **PSTA Policies**

The Training Subcommittee has finished reviewing the draft PSTA Student Policy and recommends that it be distributed to the field for review and comment. Work continues on the development of a PSTA registration policy.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Goodloe to send out the PSTA Student policy to the field for a 30-day comment period. MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Marco and PASSED unanimously.

7. **Anthrax Update**

Fire Administrator Aoyagi informed committee members on the recent case of suspected Anthrax contamination on Scarsdale Road in Bethesda. A suspicious package left in the homeowner's car tested negative. So far, the HAZMAT team has tested 40 suspicious packages, and all have tested negative. The Post Office at Shady Grove also tested negative for Anthrax contamination. Since there was no exposure at this facility, postal workers will no longer be treated with Cipro. In town meetings across the County, people are anxious; County officials are assuring residents that the County is taking prudent steps to protect them from future contamination through the mail.

Other business

Ms. Goodloe and Deputy Chief Jackson reviewed a letter sent by Deputy Chief Kelley regarding training issues. A meeting is scheduled for November 6 with Chief Rhodes and Deputy Chief Kelley to discuss this issue. Chief Strock will also meet with them regarding this matter and other issues. The outcome of these meetings will be discussed at the next HRST meeting.

Neil Shorb advised Ms. Goodloe the Interim Policy for handling FRC appeals was extended in July 2001 for six months.

Meeting Schedule CY02

Listed below are the dates for the HRST meetings for the first 6 months of CY02:

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|--------------------------|------------|--|
| Monday, January 7, 2002 | 1700 hours | EOB 12 th floor conference room |
| Monday, February 4, 2002 | 1700 hours | EOB 12 th floor conference room |
| Monday, March 4, 2002 | 1700 hours | EOB 12 th floor conference room |
| Monday, April 8, 2002 | 1700 hours | EOB 12 th floor conference room |
| Monday, May 6, 2002 | 1700 hours | EOB 12 th floor conference room |
| Monday, June 3, 2002 | 1700 hours | EOB 12 th floor conference room |

A MOTION was made by Chair Powell to adjourn the meeting. MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Goodloe and PASSED unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:54 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted
